ROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints with regard to black marketing of LPG cylinders by the distributors/dealers in the capital during the months of January and February, 1989 till date;

(b) if so, what are the names of these distributors/dealers and the action taken by Government against them;

(c) whether Government's attention has also been drawn towards the news item which appeared in various newspapers to this effect during the first week of February, 1989; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) Even though no specific instances in this regard have been brought to the notice of the Government, the possibility of such malpractices by unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out. Complaints received by the oil companies in this regard are investigated promptly, wherever necessary, and appropriate action is taken against the erring distributors in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines. In addition, the Liquified Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 1988 has been issued by the Government to check any such malpractices.

British Assistance for Developing Indian Petroleum Sector

573. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received by Government from British Oil Industry for assistance in developing Indian Petroleum Sector; and

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof and the Government's reaction to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) A proposal has recently been received from B.P. Exploration, London, proposing technical cooperation with ONGC for exploration work in the Himalayan Foothills Zone and the Plains of U.P. No proposal for assistance as such has been received.

British Oil Cos. have also shown commercial interest in liquified natural gas import feasibility study, city distribution of natural gas and exploration for hydrocarbons.

Projections for Production and Distribution of LPG

574. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the projections in the last three years for the production and distribution of LPG in the country;

(b) what were the actuals achieved; and

(c) what are the reasons for shortfall; if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) The target fixed for the production and distribution of LPG as well as the actuals achieved during the last three years are given below:

(000 MT)

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Production			
Targets	1250	1450	1613
Actuals	1230	1489	1588 (Provisional)
Distribution			
Targets	1250	1520	1740
Actuals	1241	1497	1686